

IN THE ABSTRACT

Replace the abstract originally provided on the cover sheet of the PCT application with the new abstract as follows: A new abstract numbered page 29 is enclosed for the last page of the application following the claims.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of producing a preform for a holey optical fiber having at least one hole longitudinally extending therethrough. A porous preform, such as a glass soot preform, is formed by means of flame hydrolysis, or a gel preform; at least one hole is then formed by drilling the porous preform, the hole extending through the porous preform along the longitudinal direction thereof. A holey fiber can be produced by drawing the holey porous preform, after having submitted it to a consolidation process.

REMARKS

By this amendment, an Abstract of the Disclosure has been added as the last page of the application (page no. 29). The separate page for the Abstract of the Disclosure is enclosed herewith.

An amendment to the specification is also made to incorporate related application information and headings and subheadings.

Claims 15-28 are currently pending. The claims have been amended in order to conform them to U.S. practice. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment.

The examiner is respectfully requested to consider the above preliminary amendment prior to the examination of the application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should be charged to our deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 29, 2005

By:



Ernest F. Chapman
Reg. No. 25,961

Attachment: Abstract of the Disclosure